IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A system for facilitating use of inventions in accordance with a business model, the system comprising:

a server coupled to a network for receiving descriptions of inventions;

a classification module for classifying inventions into predetermined classes;

an evaluation module for providing evaluations of the inventions; and

a database for storing the descriptions of inventions and evaluations by class and providing search facilities via the network for potential customers not related to the innovators to find inventions.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the evaluations are selected from the group consisting of prior art searches, technical feasibility reviews, commercial viability analysis and legal evaluation.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the server further comprises a facilitator for controlling interaction between innovators and potential customers.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein the facilitator provides for potential customers to fund intellectual property protection for inventions.

5. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein the facilitator provides the ability to refine inventions based on evaluations.

6. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein the facilitator controls access to a selected group of potential customers.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Serial Number: 10/008,434
Filing Date: November 13, 2001
Title: A NOVEL METHOD, SYSTEM, AND PROCESS FORACQUIRING, EVALUATING, PATENTING, AND MARKETING INNOVATION

Page 3
Dkt: 1450.001US1

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein an owner of the system is provided rights to a royalty on the inventions.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1 and further comprising a translation module that translates descriptions of inventions.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the database also contains indications of issued patents on inventions.

10. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the server further screens and validates descriptions of inventions.

11. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented business model method of facilitating the use and protection of inventions, the method comprising:

     receiving descriptions of inventions;

     categorizing the inventions;

     evaluating the inventions for potential licensing value;

     providing a database containing the inventions and evaluations; and

     making the database selectively viewable to potential customers of the inventions who are not related to the innovators.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein evaluating is performed with respect to prior art searches, technical feasibility reviews, commercial viability analysis and legal evaluation.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein and further comprising controlling interaction between innovators and potential customers.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein controlling interaction between innovators and potential customers comprises providing anonymity of at least one of the innovators and potential customers.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising providing for potential customers to fund intellectual property protection for inventions.

16. (Original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising providing the ability to refine inventions based on evaluations.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11 and also comprising providing indications of issued patents on inventions.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11 and further comprising screening and validating descriptions of inventions.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11 and further comprising controlling access to a selected group of potential customers.

20. (Original) The method of claim 11 and further comprising providing rights to a royalty on the inventions.

21. (Original) The method of claim 11 and further comprising translating descriptions of inventions to desired languages.

22. (Original) A method of facilitating invention in accordance with a business model, the method comprising:

     receiving invention input from multiple independent innovators coupled by
     network;

     validating the invention input;

     categorizing the invention input into discrete technical categories;

     evaluating the invention input;

     providing a recommendation based on the evaluations; and

     making the invention input and recommendation available to selective

     independent customers via network connection.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein evaluating is based on at least one of
prior art searching, technical feasibility, commercial viability and legal evaluation.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22 and further comprising facilitating protection of
an invention by involving a potential customer to provide funding for such protection in
exchange an interest in the invention.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein at least some of the elements are
performed by humans.

26. (Original) The method of claim 22 and further comprising controlling access to a
selected group of potential customers.

27. (Original) The method of claim 22 and further comprising providing rights to a
royalty on the inventions.

28. (Original) The method of claim 22 and further comprising translating descriptions of
inventions to desired languages.

29. (Original) A system for facilitating invention in accordance with a business model,
the system comprising:

     a module that receives invention input from multiple independent innovators

     coupled by network;

     a module that validates the invention input;

a module that categorizes the invention input into discrete technical categories;

a module that evaluates the invention input;

a module that provides a recommendation based on the evaluations; and

a module that makes the invention input and recommendation available to selective independent customers via network connection.

30. (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein the modules are managed by an entity that owns the business model.

31. (Previously Presented)   A computer readable medium having instructions thereon for causing a server computer to execute a method of facilitating invention, the method comprising:

receiving invention input from multiple independent innovators coupled by network;

facilitating validation of the invention input;

facilitating categorization of the invention input into discrete technical categories;

facilitating evaluation of the invention input;

facilitating the provision of a recommendation based on the evaluations; and

facilitating the making of the invention input and recommendation available to selecting independent customers via network connection.

32. (New) A system for facilitating use of inventions in accordance with a business model, the system comprising:

a server coupled to a network for receiving descriptions of inventions;

a classification module for classifying inventions into predetermined classes;

an evaluation module for providing evaluations of the inventions;

a database for storing the descriptions of inventions and evaluations by class and providing search facilities via the network for potential customers

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111   **Page 7**
Serial Number: 10/008,434   Dkt: 1450.001US1
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not related to the innovators to find inventions; and

    controlling interaction between innovators and potential customers by

providing anonymity of at least one of the innovators and potential customers.

33. (New) A method of facilitating invention in accordance with a business

model, the method comprising:

    receiving invention input from multiple independent innovators coupled by

network;

    validating the invention input;

    categorizing the invention input into discrete technical categories;

    evaluating the invention input;

    providing a recommendation based on the evaluations;

    making the invention input and recommendation available to selective independent

customers via network connection; and

    controlling interaction between innovators and potential customers by

providing anonymity of at least one of the innovators and potential customers.